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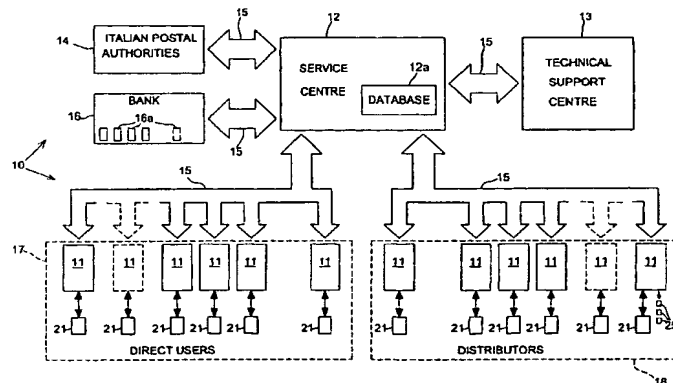
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(54) Title: DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM FOR ISSUING OFFICIAL STAMPS AND/OR TITLES COMPRISING A PLURALITY OF SMART CARDS



(57) Abstract: A distributed system (10) for issuing official stamps and/or titles (25), particularly stamps, comprising a central control unit or Service Centre (12), a plurality of local terminals (11) distributed throughout the land for materially issuing the official stamps and/or titles (25), and a plurality of smart cards (21) assigned to the operators of the local terminals (11), in which an initialisation programme (40) is provided for initialising, in combination, a given local terminal (11) and a given smart card (21) of the system (10), in order to establish between that given terminal (11) and that given smart card (21) a bi-unequivocal type relationship of correspondence and cooperation, so that the given local terminal (11) and the given smart card (21), once initialised, are enabled within the system (10) to cooperate uniquely between one another to the exclusion of all other terminals and all other smart cards. In particular, this bi-unequivocal correspondence is set up by the initialisation programme (40) by "signing" or encrypting, through a secret key (35a) of the smart card (21), a data string (24a, 24b) defined by the target terminal (11) with which the smart card (21) is intended to exclusively cooperate.

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